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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/765,868	01/19/2001	Jon Karl Lewis	10004107-1	5356

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EXAMINER
FUREMAN, JARED

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2876	

DATE MAILED: 04/22/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/765,868	LEWIS, JON KARL	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Jared J. Fureman	2876	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *30 January 2003* .

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1,2,4-7 and 9-26* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1,2,4-7 and 9-26* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *19 January 2001* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11)☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a)☐ approved b)☐ disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____ .

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Receipt is acknowledged of the amendment and extension of time filed on 1/30/2003, which have been entered in the file. Claims 1, 2, 4-7, and 9-26 are pending.

Claim Objections

1. Claims 1, 4, 19, 21, and 25 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Re claim 1, line 4: "first" should be replaced with --second--, since line 6 of claim 1 recites that the ticket data (which is generated in line 4) is sent from the second network enabled device to the first network enabled device.

Re claim 4, line 2: "receiving the ticket data" lacks proper antecedent basis.

Re claim 19:

Lines 3 and 5 recite, "the server includes a configuration to generate the ticket data ..." However, claim 17 lines 3-4 recite that the network enabled device sends ticket data to the network. It is unclear as to whether "the ticket data" recited in lines 3 and 5 of claim 19 refers to the "ticket data" as recited in claim 17 lines 3-4, or different ticket data. For examination purposes, claim 19 has been interpreted so that the ticket data generated by the server (claim 19) is not the same ticket data supplied by the network enabled device (claim 17).

Line 4, "supplied by the imaging device" should be replaced with --sent by the network enabled device--, since claim 17 lines 3-5 recite that the network enabled device sends ticket data (including data corresponding to an image) to the network, not the imaging device recited in lines 6-8 of claim 17.

Re claim 21:

Line 5, --to-- should be inserted after "configured", in order to clarify the claim.

Line 8: "the" (first occurrence) should be deleted, in order to avoid a lack of proper antecedent basis for "the authenticity".

Re claim 25, line 3: "the ticket data received from the third device" lacks proper antecedent basis, since the third device as recited in lines 7-8 of claim 21 receives ticket data from the first device, and does not send ticket data to the second device.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 17 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Johnson et al (US 5,748,755, previously cited). Please note that some of the reference numerals in figure 3 do not match the description of figure 3 in column 5. For clarity, the reference numerals in figure 3 have been re-labeled by the examiner to correspond to the description in column 5.

Johnson et al teaches a check generating apparatus for use with a network (the network between modems 36, 38, 42, and 44), comprising: a network enabled device (host computer 40) coupled to the network (via modem 42) and arranged to send check data (the data on check 26 as shown in figure 2, for example) to the network, with the

check data including data corresponding to an image of a person (for example, the image 30 shown in figure 2); and a network enabled imaging device (printer 48) coupled to the network (via plant 46 having modem 44) and arranged to receive the check data through the network and configured to form a check (26) on media (the media shown in figure 2, for example) including the image (30); wherein the first networked enabled device includes a server (the host computer 40 includes a server in that the host computer includes a database and functions to send and receive information to/from computers 120, 220, and plant 46) (see figures 2, 3, column 3 lines 16-57, and column 4 line 62 - column 5 line 67).

Johnson et al fails to specifically teach the checks being tickets and the check data being ticket data.

However, Johnson et al also teaches that while one embodiment is related to the composition of bank checks, the concept is also useful to provide personal images on other documents, including tickets (see column 5 lines 29-61).

In view of Johnson et al's teachings, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include, with the system as taught by Johnson et al, tickets and ticket data, in order to provide theft-proof tickets (see column 5 lines 29-32 and 59-61 of Johnson et al).

3. Claims 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Johnson et al in view of Rhoads (US 6,345,104 B1, previously cited).

The teachings of Johnson et al have been discussed above. Johnson et al also teaches the server (at host computer 40) including a configuration to generate ticket

data (the data being generated by retrieving and sending the data stored in the database) using the data corresponding to the image (30) supplied by a camcorder 112 over the network (the camcorder supplies data over the network via computer 120 and modem 36) (see figure 3 and column 1 lines 1-27).

Johnson et al fails to teach the server including a configuration to generate the ticket data including graphics data integrated with the image; the graphics including a watermark corresponding to identification data corresponding to the ticket.

Rhoads teaches a system and method for generating ticket data (see column 1 lines 24-31) including graphics data integrated with an image, the graphics including a watermark corresponding to identification data (an image) (see column 1 lines 24-36, column 5 lines 21-31, and column 6 lines 5-11).

In view of Rhoads' teachings, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include, with the system as taught by Johnson et al, the server including a configuration to generate the ticket data including graphics data integrated with the image; the graphics including a watermark corresponding to identification data corresponding to the ticket, in order to discourage/detect counterfeiting of security documents, such as tickets (see column 1 lines 24-36 of Rhoads).

4. Claims 1, 2, 4, 9, 10, and 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Berson (US 5,598,477) in view of Al-Sheikh (US 6,137,895, previously cited).

Re claims 1, 2, 4, 13-15: Berson teaches a method of generating a ticket (22) and a ticket generating apparatus for use with a network, comprising: sending data corresponding to a person (the purchaser's name, for example) from a first network enabled device (input device 10) to a second network enabled device (data processing system 12-1) using a network (indicated by the arrows connecting the devices shown in figure 1); generating ticket data (purchaser's name, destination, flight, fare, and encrypted validation information in field 22BC, for example) with the second network enabled device using the data corresponding to the person; sending the ticket data from the second network enabled device to the first network enabled device using the network; forming the ticket, including the data corresponding to the person, using the ticket data with an imaging device (local printing system 20) coupled to the first network enabled device; wherein the first network enabled device includes a computer (see column 3 lines 21-23); and the second network enabled device includes a server (the data processing system 12-1 includes a server in that the data processing system functions to send and receive data to and from input device 10, reservation system 16, and systems 18); receiving the ticket data and storing (the input device 10 necessarily stores the ticket data, at least temporarily, during processing) the ticket data in the computer (as discussed above, the input device 10 may be a computer); wherein forming the ticket includes sending the ticket data to the imaging device from the computer (see figures 1, 2, column 1 lines 5-10, column 1 line 65 - column 2 line 17, column 2 lines 46-52, column 3 lines 15-60, column 4 line 43 - column 5 lines 57).

Berson fails to specifically teach the data corresponding to a person including data corresponding to an image of the person.

Al-Sheikh teaches a method of generating a ticket (boarding pass 10) and associated apparatus, comprising: collecting data corresponding to an image (such as image 2 or 6) of a person (the passenger who purchased the boarding pass 12), generating ticket data (the data on the boarding pass 10, as shown in figure 1, using the data corresponding to the image), and forming the ticket, including the image, using the ticket data with an imaging device (not shown, but represented by block 24 in figure 2) (see figures 1, 2, column 1 liens 10-15, column 2 lines 5-30, column 2 line 43 - column 3 line 65).

In view of Al-Sheikh's teachings, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include, with the method and apparatus as taught by Berson, the data corresponding to a person including data corresponding to an image of the person, in order to allow rapid and repeated security verification by printing a human recognizable image of the passenger/ticket holder on the ticket (see column 1 lines 10-15 of Berson).

Re claims 9 and 10: Berson teaches a method of generating a ticket (22), comprising: sending data corresponding to a person (the purchaser's name, for example) from a network enabled imaging device (input device 10 and local printing system 20) to a network enabled device (data processing system 12-1) using a network (indicated by the arrows connecting the devices shown in figure 1); generating ticket data (purchaser's name, destination, flight, fare, and encrypted validation information in

field 22BC, for example) with the network enabled device using the data corresponding to the person; sending the ticket data from the network enabled device to the network enabled imaging device using the network; forming the ticket, including the data corresponding to the person, with the network enabled imaging device using the ticket data; wherein the network enabled device includes a server (the data processing system 12-1 includes a server in that the data processing system functions to send and receive data to and from input device 10, reservation system 16, and systems 18); and the network enabled imaging device includes a printer (20) (see figures 1, 2, column 1 lines 5-10, column 1 line 65 - column 2 line 17, column 2 lines 46-52, column 3 lines 15-60, column 4 line 43 - column 5 lines 57).

Berson fails to specifically teach the data corresponding to a person including data corresponding to an image of the person.

The teachings of Al-Sheikh have been discussed above.

In view of Al-Sheikh's teachings, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include, with the method as taught by Berson, the data corresponding to a person including data corresponding to an image of the person, in order to allow rapid and repeated security verification by printing a human recognizable image of the passenger/ticket holder on the ticket (see column 1 lines 10-15 of Berson).

5. Claims 5-7, 11, 12, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Berson as modified by Al-Sheikh in view of Rhoads.

The teachings of Berson as modified by Al-Sheikh have been discussed above. Berson also teaches generating the ticket data including integrating text data (conventional information normally found on an airline ticket, for example, see figure 1 and column 4 lines 58 - column 5 line 2).

Berson as modified by Al-Sheikh fails to teach wherein generating the ticket data includes integrating graphics data with the data corresponding to the image; wherein the graphics include a watermark corresponding to identification data associated with the ticket; wherein generating the ticket data includes integrating graphics data and the data corresponding to the image with the text data.

The teachings of Rhoads have been discussed above.

In view of Rhoads' teachings, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include, with the method and apparatus as taught by Berson as modified by Al-Sheikh, wherein generating the ticket data includes integrating graphics data with the data corresponding to the image; wherein the graphics include a watermark corresponding to identification data associated with the ticket; wherein generating the ticket data includes integrating graphics data and the data corresponding to the image with the text data, in order to discourage/detect counterfeiting of security documents, such as tickets (see column 1 lines 24-36 of Rhoads).

6. Claims 21-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Berson in view of Al-Sheikh and Nakfoor (US 6,496,809 B1).

Berson teaches a system, comprising: a first device (input device 10) configured to send data corresponding to a person (the purchaser's name, for example) and arranged to receive ticket data (purchaser's name, destination, flight, fare, and encrypted validation information in field 22BC, for example), including the data corresponding to the person; a second device (data processing system 12-1) arranged to receive the data and configured to generate and send the ticket data to the first device; a third device (printing system 20) arranged to receive the ticket data from the first device and configured to confirm authenticity of the ticket data (authenticity of the ticket data is confirmed through the use of an encryption system, as shown in figures 3); wherein the second device includes a server (the data processing system 12-1 includes a server in that the data processing system functions to send and receive data to and from input device 10, reservation system 16, and systems 18); and the third device includes a ticket receipt device (the printing system 20 necessarily includes means for receiving the ticket media for printing thereon), with the server coupled to the ticket receipt device through a network (the data processing system may be coupled to the printing system by a network represented by the dashed line in figure 1); wherein the second device includes a configuration to determine the authenticity of the ticket data by comparing ticket data received from the third device to the ticket data generated by the second device (the data processing system receives the ticket data from the printing system via the use of a validating system 26 that reads the ticket data from ticket 22, which was produced by the printing system, and sending the ticket data to the data processing system for reconciliation); and the configuration to confirm the authenticity of

the ticket data of the third device includes a configuration to receive the confirmation through communication with the second device (the confirmation of the authenticity of the ticket data of the printing system being made through the use of the encryption system during communication with the data processing system); wherein the second device includes a configuration to determine if the ticket data has been used prior to the third device receiving the ticket data (the data processing system checks the airline reservation system for available flights, the flight being part of the ticket data, and if the flight is not available (all the tickets for that flight having been sold, for example) that particular ticket data will not be presented to the purchaser for review, nor sent to the printing system) (see figures 1-3, column 1 lines 5-10, column 1 line 65 - column 2 line 17, column 2 lines 46-52, column 3 lines 15-60, column 4 line 10 - column 5 lines 57).

Berson fails to specifically teach the data corresponding to a person including data corresponding to an image of the person.

The teachings of Al-Sheikh have been discussed above.

In view of Al-Sheikh's teachings, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include, with the method as taught by Berson, the data corresponding to a person including data corresponding to an image of the person, in order to allow rapid and repeated security verification by printing a human recognizable image of the passenger/ticket holder on the ticket (see column 1 lines 10-15 of Berson).

Berson as modified by Al-Sheikh fails to specifically teach the first device sending and receiving in a wireless mode; the first device including a personal digital assistant;

the first device including a configuration to send the ticket data to the third device in the wireless mode.

Nakfoor teaches a system, comprising: a first device configured to send and receive ticket data in a wireless mode; the first device being a personal digital assistant (see column 2 lines 29-39 and column 3 lines 30-34).

In view of Nakfoor's teachings, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to include, with the system as taught by Berson as modified by Al-Sheikh, the first device sending and receiving in a wireless mode; the first device including a personal digital assistant; the first device including a configuration to send the ticket data to the third device in the wireless mode, in order allow greater convenience for the users, in that they may use a mobile wireless device to purchase tickets, and not be required to utilize a fixed, hard-wired device.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments filed 1/30/2003 (with respect to claims 17-20) have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to applicant's argument that Johnson et al does not teach or suggest that the laser printer 48 corresponds to a network enabled imaging device coupled to the network (see page 10 of the amendment filed on 1/30/2003), Johnson et al teaches that the laser printer 48 is used to print a full set of checks (see column 5 lines 12-14). The laser printer 48 is provided at a plant 46, which receives check data from host 40 over a network via the use of modems 42 and 44 (see figure 3 and column 10-12). Since the plant 46 receives the check data over the network, and the printer 48 is

provided (in order to print the checks) with the check data that was received from the network, the printer 48 can be considered as network enabled/coupled to the network. While this may be an indirect connection, since the printer receives the data that was transmitted through the network, Johnson et al meets the limitations of "network enabled" and "coupled to the network".

8. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 2, 4-7, and 8-16 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. As discussed above, Berson teaches sending data from a first device to a second device over a network, the second device generating ticket data including the data sent from the first device, the second device sending the ticket data back to the first device over the network, and then printing a ticket utilizing the ticket data; and Al-Sheikh teaches generating ticket data including data corresponding to an image of a person.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Sansone (US 6,538,757 B1), Kara (US 6,505,179 B1), Brooks et al (US 6,498,655 B1), Sansone (US 6,454,174 B1), Kwan (US 2002/0040346 A1), Frank et al (US 2002/0023955 A1), Goodwin (US 2001/0034716 A1), Gebb (US 6,067,532), Huettinger (DE 198 23 907 A1), Brewster et al (WO 01/50445 A1), McCarthy (WO 02/28629 A1), and Lee (WO 01/97175 A1) all teach systems and methods for electronically purchasing tickets over a network and printing the tickets at the user's location.

10. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jared J. Fureman whose telephone number is (703) 305-0424. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00 am - 4:30 PM M-T, and every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee can be reached on (703) 305-3503. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-7722 for regular communications and (703) 308-7722 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

Jared J. Fureman
April 18, 2003